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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**  
**(Case No. 05-314-C)**

<b>In the Application of:</b>	)	
	)	
<b>Singh <i>et al.</i></b>	)	
	)	<b>Examiner: Davis, Zinna Northington</b>
<b>Serial No.: 10/646,348</b>	)	
	)	<b>Group Art Unit: 1625</b>
<b>Filing Date: August 22, 2003</b>	)	
	)	<b>Confirmation No.: 8359</b>
<b>For: Pyridyl Substituted Heterocycles</b>	)	
<b>Useful for Treating or Preventing</b>	)	
<b>HCV Infection</b>	)	

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED MARCH 30, 2006**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 30, 2006, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

No fees are believed due. If this belief is incorrect, the Patent Office is authorized to charge any fees to deposit account no. 13-2490.

**Amendments to the Claims** begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 13 of this paper.

In view of the above discussion, the claims are not anticipated by the '186 publication because the '186 publication does not describe each and every group recited in the claims. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C §102(b).

#### **IV. Claim Objection**

The Examiner objected to claims 2, 4, 13-14 and 24-41 for being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner asserts that claims 2, 4, 13-14 and 24-41 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

As discussed above, Applicants have either amended the claims or presented explanations to overcome the rejections of the base claims. Accordingly, claims 2, 4, 13-14 and 24-41 do not need to be rewritten in independent form to be allowable. Thus, the objections to the claims are moot and Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objections.

#### **V. Conclusion**

In view of the above discussion and amendments, the Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in allowable condition. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that a discussion of this matter would be helpful, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at 312-913-0001.

Respectfully submitted,  
McDonnell Boennen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

Dated: May 17, 2006

By: /Michael S. Greenfield/  
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